

## PROFESSOR INFORMATION



Instructor: Christine Gudorf  
Office: Online  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Phone: 305 348 2729 or 305 348 2729  
Email: gudorf@fiu.edu

### Messages

Please use Blackboard course mail

### Emergency Only Phone

786 269 8424

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

This course will focus on the variety of challenges that contemporary sexual practice and research pose for traditional religions. Areas examined include: sexual identity and psychology; sexual unions; natural law on sexuality; reproduction, contraception and abortion; gender roles, and sexual victimization.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Explain the trajectory of meanings of sex, gender and sexual orientation within western religions;
- Discuss the present status of research regarding the above; and
- Describe the challenge that the eroding paradigm of sexual dimorphism presents to at least two different religions, and how, given their histories and teachings, they are likely to respond.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### POLICIES

Please review the [policies page](#) as it contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU and additional information on the standards for acceptable netiquette important for online courses.

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS & SKILLS

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "[What's Required](#)" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

### ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

Please visit our [ADA Compliance](#) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit [Blackboard's Commitment Accessibility](#) webpage for more information.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center](#).

### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

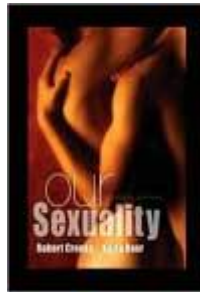
For more information about prerequisites, [click here](#).

### **PROCTORED EXAM POLICY**

**Please note that the information contained in this section applies only if your course requires a proctored exam.**

Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our [Student Proctored Exam Instructions](#) webpage for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.

### **TEXTBOOK**



Our Sexuality  
Crooks and Baur  
Thompson-Wadsworth, 11th Edition, 2010  
0495812943  
9780495812944

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](#).



Good Sex  
Jung, Hunt, and Balakrishnan  
Rutgers University Press, 2000  
0813528844  
978-0813528847

**Note in regards to Our Sexuality by Crooks and Baur:** Some of you will have the 9th, some the 10th, and some the 11th edition. There is a new 12th ed dated 2014 (?) that I could order for this class (it is apparently available before its publication date) , but since I can't get a review copy soon enough, I

will wait and order it for another semester. So do not buy the 12th ed if it is offered, and rent or try for used copies of earlier editions, as resale will probably not be possible. The quizzes follow the 11th edition, so if you have that edition you need simply follow the syllabus.

If you have the 10th ed, Chapters 1 and 2, and 6-18 are the same, but when the syllabus says read chapter 3 (female anatomy and physiology) you read chapter 4; where it says read 4 (male physiology and anatomy) you read 5, and where it says read 5 (gender) you read 3.

If you have the 9th edition, you must make the substitutions for the 10th ed as above, and in addition, if the syllabus says 7, you read 7+8. Syllabus 8 is your 9, syllabus 9 is your 10, syllabus 10 is your 11, syllabus 11 is your 12, syllabus 12 is your 13, syllabus 13 is your 14, syllabus 14 is your 15+16, syllabus 15 is your 17, syllabus 16 is your 18, syllabus 17 is your 19, and syllabus 18 is your 20.

For the most part, the content is the same, it is only the order of the chapters that is different

### EXPECTATIONS OF THIS COURSE

This is an online course, meaning that most of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as for a traditional course; in fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills that can make them more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **Review the how to get started information** located in the course content
- **Introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self introduction in the appropriate discussion forum
- **Take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Blackboard
- **Interact** online with instructor/s and peers
- **Review** and follow the course calendar

### COURSE DETAIL

#### COURSE COMMUNICATION

Communication in this course will take place via **messages**.

The message feature is a private, internal Blackboard only communication system. Users must log on to the blackboard system to send/receive/read messages. **There are no notifications in Blackboard to inform users when a new message has been received; therefore, it is recommended that students check their messages routinely to ensure up-to-date communication.**

This is the best method to communicate with your instructor privately.

#### DISCUSSION FORUMS

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

#### QUIZZES

There will be weekly online quizzes on the films and the material in the Crooks and Baur, *Our Sexuality* text. Every week that there is a reading assignment from Crooks and Baur, there will be a quiz. Each student will have two attempts at quizzes with questions randomly drawn from a large database. The higher of the two grades for each quiz will be counted, and these higher grades will be averaged. The rationale for two attempts is that many students lose one attempt to technical problems, so I have added a second attempt. There is a **Millionaire** game to take as you read each chapter of C&B and a **Jeopardy** game to take before each quiz. These are designed to help you prepare for the quizzes; they are not required, and are not graded, but they may help.

The *Our Sexuality* reading, though critically important for understanding the ethical material, is for background only. The **Midterm (Exam 1) & Final (Exam 2)** material will come from *Good Sex*, the lectures and films, and the assigned articles—the religious and ethical materials of the course— not from *Our Sexuality*.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum [hardware requirements](#).

### ASSIGNMENTS

There are two writing Assignments (550-700 words) that you must submit through Turnitin in answer to the questions listed for each assignment. (See Course Content page) Some questions have two or more parts—be sure to answer all the parts of the question. Watch the due dates on these! You should not attempt these before you have done the relevant readings/ lectures/videos. If you desire an A or B, you must use notes (in-text, footnotes or endnotes) to cite the sources from which your information came. Most if not all of your notes will be to course materials. Outside research is not necessary. The purpose of the Assignments is to evaluate your mastery of the course materials, so substituting external sources for the course materials in your arguments is not acceptable. You may augment the course materials if you like, but replacement is not acceptable.

The most common mistake made on these is to talk about the subject and what interests you about it, without ever directly addressing the question asked. Answer the question!

Review the detailed [Turnitin Instructions](#) on how to submit your assignments and how to review the Gradermark comments (feedback).

### COURSE POLICIES

If you have a serious reason for missing the open dates for the Midterm (Exam 1) or Final (Exam 2) (e.g., serious accident, hospitalization, incarceration, death in the immediate family) contact your instructor by the day of the exam to arrange a make-up. Do not wait a week, and then email with an excuse.

Inevitably, a number of students for various reasons will miss one or another quiz deadline. Three days before the final exam opens all the previous quizzes will be open from 12:01 am til midnight for those who have not used both their attempts. No quiz make-ups are available at other times, regardless of reason.

Computers are available on campus if your computer is down; many home computers using modems cannot receive all the video or audio presentations—leave time enough to get them on campus if your set-up at home does not work. Check out the compatibility of your home computer with all elements of the course during the first week of classes.

No extra credit work is accepted. Students' grades demonstrate the level of mastery of class materials.

Assignments must be turned in to Turnitin via Blackboard. The easy access portal is located in the Assignment Dropbox.

### INCOMPLETES

University policy allows incompletes only in cases where the student has completed the majority of work in the class and has a passing grade on the average of all completed work. You must ask for an incomplete-- they are not automatic for those who have not completed the course. In most cases, incompletes will expire on the first day the student enrolls in another class, because the longer an IN

goes on, the worse the student does, the less he/she remembers, and the more unlikely the IN is to be completed among the press of other work. If the student does not re-enroll, the IN expires under university policy after two semesters (counting summers).

## GRADING

| Course Requirements    | Weight |
|------------------------|--------|
| Midterm (Exam 1)       | 30%    |
| Final (Exam 2)         | 30%    |
| Quiz Average           | 25%    |
| Assignments (averaged) | 15%    |
| Total                  | 100%   |

| Letter Grade | Range    | Letter Grade | Range   | Letter Grade | Range   |
|--------------|----------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| A            | Above 93 | B-           | 80 - 82 | D+           | 67 - 69 |
| A-           | 90 - 92  | C+           | 77 - 79 | D            | 63 - 66 |
| B+           | 87 - 89  | C            | 73 - 76 | D-           | 60 - 62 |
| B            | 83 - 86  | C-           | 70 - 72 | F            | < 60    |

## COURSE CALENDAR

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

| Week | Topic |
|------|-------|
|      |       |

| Week                          | Topic  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Week 1<br>January<br>12-18    | <p><b>Human Sexuality: An Introduction to Its Study</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b><br/>           - C&amp;B 1 - 2</p> <p><b>View Presentation:</b><br/>           "Reading Human Sexuality Critically"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b><br/>           CNN - China Sex Shop<br/>           CNN - Sex in America Survey and Studying Sexual Response</p> <p><b>Quiz #1: C&amp;B 1 &amp; 2</b></p>  |
| Week 2<br>January<br>19-25    | <p><b>Religious and Cultural Interpretation of Sexuality</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b><br/>           - Charles Wood, "The Doctor's Dilemma: Sin Salvation and the Menstrual Cycle in Medieval Thought" Specu 27.<br/>           - Good Sex Ch. 11<br/>           - Robert Francoeur, "The Religious Suppression of Eros." from D. Steinberg (Ed.), The Erotic Impulse: Honor and the Self (pp. 162-174). New York: Jeremy P. Tarcher Press, 1992.</p> <p><b>View Presentation:</b><br/>           "Menstruation"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b><br/>           CNN - Female Circumcision<br/>           CNN - Menopause<br/>           CNN - Male Circumcision<br/>           CNN - Prostate Cancer</p> |
| Week 3<br>January<br>26-Feb 1 | <p><b>Construction of Sexuality: Identity and Social Relationship/Responsibility</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b><br/>           - C&amp;B 5<br/>           - Gudorf, "The Necessity for Reconstructing Christian Sexual Ethics" Chapter One in Body, Sex and the Self: Reconstructing Christian Sexual Ethics (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1994).</p> <p><b>View Presentation:</b><br/>           "Sexuality as Constructed I"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b><br/>           CNN -Transsexual Teacher and</p>  |

| Week                               | Topic   |
|------------------------------------|---|
|                                    | <p>Perceiving Gender Roles (all 3 parts)</p> <p>Quiz #2: C&amp;B 5</p>  |
| <p>Week 4</p> <p>February 2-8</p>  | <p><b>The [Assigned] Functions of Sexuality</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 7</li> <li>- Gudorf, "Ending Procreationism" (Chapter Two in <i>Body, Sex and Pleasure: Reconstructing Christianity</i> (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1994).</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sexuality as Constructed II"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNN - Bachelor Farmers</li> <li>Steinberg's Triangular Theory of Love</li> <li>CNN - The Odd Couple</li> </ul> <p>Quiz #3: C&amp;B 7</p> <p>Assignment #1 - Due February 5, 11:59 pm via Assignment Dropbox</p>   |
| <p>Week 5</p> <p>February 9-15</p> | <p><b>Religions and Homosexuality</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 9</li> <li>- Mark D. Jordan, "Finding Some Marriage Theology—Before the Ceremony," in <i>Blessing Same Sex Marriages: Perils of Queer Romance and the Confusions of Christian Marriage</i> (University of Chicago Press, 2003).</li> <li>- Justin Tanis, "Transgendered People and God," in <i>Trans-gendered: Theology, Ministry and Community</i> (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2003). In Course Content</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sexuality in Christianity"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kinsey Continuum</li> <li>Sexual Orientation: Coming Out in the Workplace</li> <li>CNN - Shepard Profile</li> </ul> <p>Quiz #4: C&amp;B 9</p> |

| Week                                     | Topic   |
|--|---|
| <p>Week 6</p> <p>February 16-22</p>      | <p><b>Sexual Development and Sexual Pleasure</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B,12</li> <li>- Good Sex, Chapters 1, 6</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sexuality and Gender"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teen Slang</li> <li>Male and Female Sexual Response Cycle</li> <li>Adolescence: Body Image</li> <li>Adolescence: Sexual Risk Taking</li> </ul> <p><b>Quiz #5: C&amp;B 12</b></p> <p><b>Practice exam opens (Note: This does not count toward grade.)</b></p>  |
| <p>Week 7</p> <p>February 23-March 1</p> | <p><b>Sex in Hinduism/Gender</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 13 - 14</li> <li>- Anantanand Rambachan, "A Hindu Perspective." from John C. Raines and Daniel Maguire, Eds. V Women: Men's Voices from World Religions (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2004)</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sex in Hinduism"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reality TV Weddings in India</li> <li>CNN - Pros and Cons of Abstinence Sex Ed</li> <li>CNN - Early Adulthood</li> <li>CNN - Late Adulthood</li> </ul> <p><b>Quiz #6: C&amp;B 13&amp;14</b></p> |
| <p>Week 8</p> <p>March 2-8</p>           | <p><b>Midterm (Exam 1) March 3, 12:01 am-March 6, 11:59 pm</b></p>  |



| Week                   | Topic   |
|------------------------|---|
| Week 9<br>March 9-16   | <b>Spring Break—no class.</b>   |
| Week 10<br>March 17-23 | <p><b>Sexual Coercion and Commercial Sex</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 17</li> <li>- Good Sex, Chapters 10</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sexual Coercion"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <p>CNN - Anti-pedophilia Internet Task Force<br/>           CNN - Crime of Rape</p> <p><b>Quiz #7: C&amp;B 17</b></p> <p><b>Assignment #2 - Due March 7, at 11:59 via Assignment Dropbox</b></p>  |
| Week 11<br>March 24-30 | <p><b>Sexual Problems/ Sex in Judaism</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 15</li> <li>- Good Sex, Chapters 3, 9</li> <li>- Ze'ev Falk, "A Jewish Perspective." from John C. Raines and Daniel Maguire, Eds. What Men Own: Men's Voices from World Religions (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2001.)</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sex in Judaism"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <p>Erectile Dysfunction<br/>           CNN - Premature Ejaculation<br/>           HIV/AIDS Client Social Support and Engagement (1 and 2)<br/>           CNN - Chlamydia Test</p> |

| Week  | Topic  |
|---|--|
|   | <p><b>Quiz #8: C&amp;B 15</b></p>  |
| <p>Week 12<br/>March<br/>31-April<br/>6</p> | <p><b>Motherhood and Parenthood</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- C&amp;B 10 - 11</li> <li>- Susan Sered, "Maternity and Meaning" (Chapter 3, Susan Starr Sered, Priestess, Mother, Sacred S<br/>Dominated by Women. New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.)</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Parenting, Masculinity and Femininity"</p> <p><b>Video Clips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CNN - Morning After Pill</li> <li>CNN - Birth Defects</li> <li>Deciding Whether to Have Children</li> </ul> <p><b>Quiz #9: C&amp;B 10 - 11</b></p> |

| Week                   | Topic  |
|------------------------|--|
| Week 13<br>April 7-13  | <p><b>Sex as Distracting/Sex as Spiritual Training</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good Sex, Chapters 8</li> <li>- Ravivat Puntarigvivat, "A Thai Buddhist Perspective." from John C. Raines and Daniel Maguire, Owe to Women: Men's Voices from World Religions (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2011)</li> <li>- Gudorf, "Mutuality in Sexual Pleasure as Normative" (Chapter Five of Body, Sex and Pleasure)</li> <li>"Getting Clear About Bodyselves and Bodyrights" (2 parts) (Chapter Six of Body, Sex and Pleasure)</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sex in Buddhism"</p> |
| Week 14<br>April 12-18 | <p><b>Sex in Islam</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ziba Mir Hosseini, "The Construction of Gender in Islamic Legal Thought"</li> <li>- Good Sex, Chapters 2, 5</li> </ul> <p><b>View Presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sex in Islam"</p>  |
| Week 15<br>April 19-25 | <p><b>Sex and Religion in the Future-Present</b></p> <p><b>Read:</b></p> <p>Gudorf, "Mutuality in Sexual Pleasure as Normative" (Chapter Five of Body, Sex and Pleasure)</p> <p><b>View presentation:</b></p> <p>"Sex and Religion in the Future"</p> <p>Review course materials (Not C&amp;B!) covered since the midterm—don't forget the powerpoint slides</p> <p><b>Quiz Make-up Day:</b></p> <p><b>April 24, 12:01am - 12:59pm</b></p>   |

| Week                          | Topic  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Week 16<br>April 27-<br>May 5 | <b>Final (Exam 2)</b><br><b>Available:</b><br><b>April 27 at 12:00am – April 30 at 11:59pm</b><br><br><b>(Be sure to click both SAVE and FINISH on the essay so that I do not find an empty essay box name.)</b> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |